## THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

LANE C. HURLEY,

Petitioner,

٧.

3:13-CV-1502

(JUDGE MARIANI)

BRIAN THOMPSON, SUPERINTENDENT,: STATE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION, :

--MERCER, PA,

Respondents.

FILED SCRANTON

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## <u>ORDER</u>

AND NOW, THIS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2017, upon *de novo* review of Magistrate Judge Carlson's Report & Recommendation (Doc. 40), Plaintiffs' Objections thereto (Doc. 44), IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Report & Recommendation ("R&R"), (Doc. 40), is **ADOPTED** for the reasons discussed therein.
- 2. Plaintiffs' Objections, (Doc. 44), are OVERRULED.
- 3. Based on the reasons stated in the accompanying opinion and in the R&R, the Court **DENIES** Hurley's petition for writ of habeas corpus. However, the Court notes that Plaintiff's Objections present a serious question of sufficiency of the evidence pursuant to *Jackson v. Virginia*, 443 U.S. 307 (1979).
- 4. Pursuant to Local Appellate Rule 22.2 of the Rules of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, at the time a final order denying a petition under 28

- U.S.C. § 2254, the Court must make a determination as to whether a certificate of appealability should issue. 3d Cir. L.A.R. 22.2.
- 5. For reasons stated in the accompanying opinion, this Court concludes that

  Petitioner's argument for insufficiency of the evidence has made "a substantial
  showing of the denial of a constitutional right." 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(2). Thus, the

  Court ISSUES a Certificate of Appealability on the issue of sufficiency of the
  evidence as stated below:

The issue certified for appeal is whether a conviction in which the *only* direct evidence at trial originated from repressed memory testimony of the victim may be constitutionally sufficient, when a growing body of academic literature has criticized repressed memory recovery as prone to the creation of false memories. The Certificate of Appealability is denied in all other respects.

/Robert D. Mariani

United States District Judge